As such, the Government has no role in this matter. However, BCCI had been asked to apprise the Government of the action it had taken in this regard.

As per information received from the BCCI, during the closing stages of the TVS Cup final in Kolkata on 18-11-2003, two members of the Selection Committee met the BCCI President and verbally reported that Shri Abhijit Kale, a cricketer of Maharashtra Cricket Association, had approached them by offering a monetary consideration for his selection to the Indian team. Subsequently, the two selectors furnished their written reports as per the advice of the President, BCCI. The President, BCCI, after having legal opinion, initiated inquiry on the issue and appointed Shri D.V. Subba Rao, the chairman of Bar Council of India, as Commissioner, as per clause 38 (ii) of the Memorandum and Rules & Regulations of BCCI and set 15 days time to furnish his report. Further, as per clause 38 (vii) of the said Rules, the President, BCCI decided to suspend Sh. Abhijit Kale from participating in any tournament. On the issue of suspension of Sh. Kale, the matter is also pending before the Bombay High Court.

Sh. Subba Rao has recently submitted his report to the BCCI and the same is being considered by its Disciplinary Committee, which will recommend the action against the guilty persons.

Upgrading infrastructure for selection and training

†1999. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to change existing old infrastructure meant for selection and training of athletes for coming Olympic Games; and

(b) if so,the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The upgradation of existing infrastructure is an on-going process and these are upgraded from time to time keeping in view the requirements of our sportspersons for their participation in major international events. In order to organize

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the 1st Afro-Asian Games, initially at Delhi and finally at Hyderabad, international standard sports infrastructures have been created/upgraded at both the places. In addition to Delhi and Hyderabad, infrastructure has also been upgraded at Patiala and Bangalore where a majority of the training camps are organized. All these infrastructures would meet the requirement of athletes for the forthcoming Olympic Games.

National sports policy, 2001

2000. DR. KARAN SINGH:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Sports Policy, 2001 envisages use of Sports diplomacy by way of organising international sports and games for strengthening of bilateral and multilateral ties; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Sports Policy, 2001 envisages increased utilization of sports and related activities as a medium for promoting co-operation and friendship in the region, as also globally. Towards this objective, due emphasis has been laid on sports exchange programmes with different countries.

Encouraging sports

2001. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing and future plans to encourage sports other than cricket, football, hockey and tennis in the country; and

(b) the details of plans to upgrade or revamp sports infrastructure in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) I. The following schemes are implemented by the Government of India to encourage sports in the country: